

Message Text

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ACTION FBOE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /013 W

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R 251555Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7567

UNCLAS MOSCOW 2586

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, UR

SUBJECT: REPRESENTATIONAL APARTMENT FURNISHINGS

REF: A. STATE 37930 B. MOSCOW 1936

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT INTERESTS OF APPEARANCE AND MOST EFFICIENT USE EXISTING FURNITURE MERIT OUTFITTING TWO REPRESENTATIONAL APARTMENTS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION WITH NEW DREXEL. REMODELING PROJECT PROVIDES EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO

START ATTRACTIVE APARTMENTS WITH FULLY COORDINATED FURNISHINGS AND MUCH WILL BE LOST IF WE MUST USE MISMATCHED, USED PIECES IN VARYING CONDITION.

2. WHILE BULK OF FURNITURE FROM PREVIOUS TWO REPRESENTATIONAL APARTMENTS REMAINS USEABLE, ITEMS DO NOT MATCH AND ARE SHOWING WEAR OF SEVERAL YEARS. VIRTUALLY ALL PIECES WARRANT SOME REFINISHING AND/OR REUPHOLSTERING. WITH NEW SETS FOR TWO NEW APARTMENTS, POST WOULD PLAN ON ARRIVAL TO "RECYCLE" OLD PIECES FROM PREVIOUS APARTMENTS THROUGH UPHOLSTERY AND CARPENTER SHOPS OVER SEVERAL MONTHS, USING THUS REFURBISHED FURNITURE TO UPGRADE OTHER CHANCERY APARTMENTS WITH REPLACEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS MATCHED AS BEST POSSIBLE. END RESULT WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN APPEARANCE THROUGHOUT NINE REPRESENTATIONAL APARTMENTS IN CHANCERY BUILDING AND MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF FURNITURE WITH MINIMUM INCONVENIENCE TO OCCUPANTS.

3. FOR NEW APARTMENTS EMBASSY ESTIMATES COSTS AS FOLLOWS:

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DREXEL FOR ALL ROOMS \$15,000, FREIGHT ESTIMATED AT \$9,000,

CARPETING FROM VIENNA AT \$4750.00 FOR 360 SQUARE METERS TOTAL, AND \$1,000 FOR DRAPERY MATERIAL (HELSINKI SOURCES) TO BE SEWN BY EMBASSY SHOP. GRAND TOTAL \$31,000 AS STATED IN BUDGET. DRAPES AND CARPETING IN ANY CASE NOT SALVAGEABLE FROM PREVIOUS APARTMENTS OWING TO WEAR AS WELL AS SIZE FACTORS.

4. TO ENABLE FURNISHING PLANS AS OUTLINED ABOVE, EMBASSY CONTINUES TO RECOMMEND ALLOTMENT FULL \$31,000 AS INITIALLY REQUESTED. WITHIN THIS AMOUNT OUR PRIORITIES WOULD BE:

A)CARPETS AND DRAPES		6,000
FREIGHT	YPP	
SUBTOTAL		6,600

B)PRINCIPAL REPRESENTATION ROOMS		
2 LIVING ROOMS (DREXEL B)		3,558
2 DINING ROOMS (DREXEL SENIOR)		3,067
DECORATOR PIECES		2,000
FREIGHT	5,000	
SUBTOTAL		13,625

C) THREE BEDROOM SET (DREXEL II & IV)		3,300
FREIGHT	1,900	
SUBTOTAL		5,200

D) ADDITIONAL BEDROOM SET AND		
DECORATOR PIECES		3,500
FREIGHT	1,500	
SUBTOTAL		5,000
GRAND TOTAL-----		30,425

5. WILL APPRECIATE EARLY RESPONSE IN VIEW NEED FOR TIMELY PLANNING AND PROCUREMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW02586
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750067-0020
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750215/aaaaaney.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION FBOE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 37930, 75 MOSCOW 1936
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAY 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPRESENTATIONAL APARTMENT FURNISHINGS
TAGS: ABLD, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006